UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY Albuquerque, New Mexico



Drilling and testing of well 69, Fort Wingate Army Depot,
McKinley County, New Mexico

Ву

Jerry W. Mercer and Eric G. Lappala

Open-file report

Prepared by the U.S. Geological Survey in cooperation with the Fort Wingate Army Depot

November 1971

71-206

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By

Jerry W. Mercer and Eric G. Lappala

Introduction

Fort Wingate Army Depot requested that the U.S. Geological Survey give technical assistance in drilling and testing a new production well. This technical assistance was given in close cooperation with Mr. Don M. Coulter, Engineering Department, Fort Wingate Army Depot, who supervised the engineering aspects of well drilling and construction.

The only aquifer beneath the depot known to yield sufficient water to be considered as a supply source is the Glorieta Sandstone of Permian age. This aquifer has been tapped by several wells on the depot grounds; however, only one well (well 68, fig. 1) yielded an adequate supply of water. The well flowed at the surface.

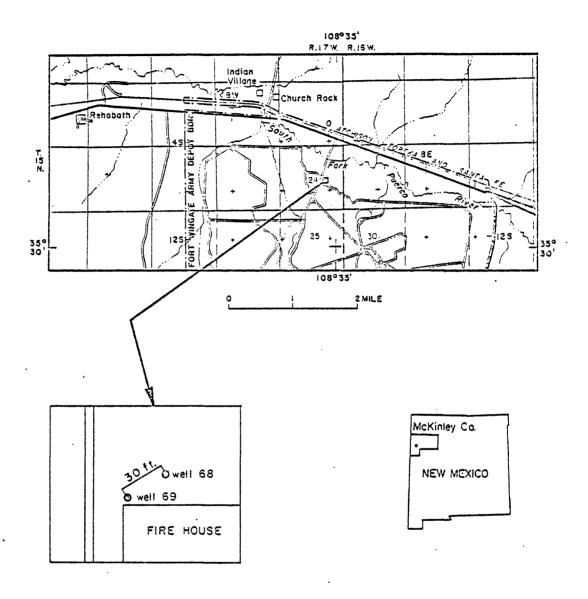


Figure 1.--Location of wall 69 on Fort Wingate Army Depot,

McKinley County,

Well 68 was drilled in 1942. Examination of the well by the Geological Survey in 1968 (U.S. Geol. Survey, written communication) indicated that the casing had deteriorated and that water under artesian pressure was probably leaking into formations above the aquifer. Army officials decided to drill a new well (well 69) to replace well 68. Well 69 was drilled as close to well 68 as feasible.

Location of the well

Well 69 (fig. 1) was drilled at Fort Wingate Army Depot in the NWWNEWNWSEW sec. 24, T. 15 N., R. 17 W. (projected section) at an altitude of 6,680 feet. It is located 30 feet southwest of well 68.

Well construction

Drilling of well 69 was begun in July 1970 by Coffey Drilling Co. of Ramah, N. Max. A $12\frac{1}{2}$ -inch pilot hole was drilled to a depth of 110 feet using a bentonite-base drilling mud. The pilot hole was then reamed to 20 inches and cased to 100 feet with 16-inch casing and cemented to prevent caving. A 154-inch hole was then dril·led to a depth of 1,050 feet. After gamma-ray and neutron logs were made by the U.S. Geological Survey (figs. 2A and 23), the hole was cased to 1,037 feet with 12 3/4-inch casing and cemented. An 11½-inch hole was then drilled to 1,350 feet. Acoustic velocity and induction-electric logs (figs. 3A and 3B) were made by Welex Well Service Co. for the interval from 1,028 to 1,350. logging, the hole was cased with 8 3/4-inch casing; slotted 8 3/4-inch casing was placed opposite the producing interval (1,100 to 1,350 feet). Construction details of the well are shown in figure 4 and a summary record of the well is given in table 1. Samples of drill cuttings were collected at 10-foot intervals and a sample-description log (Appendix A) was made.

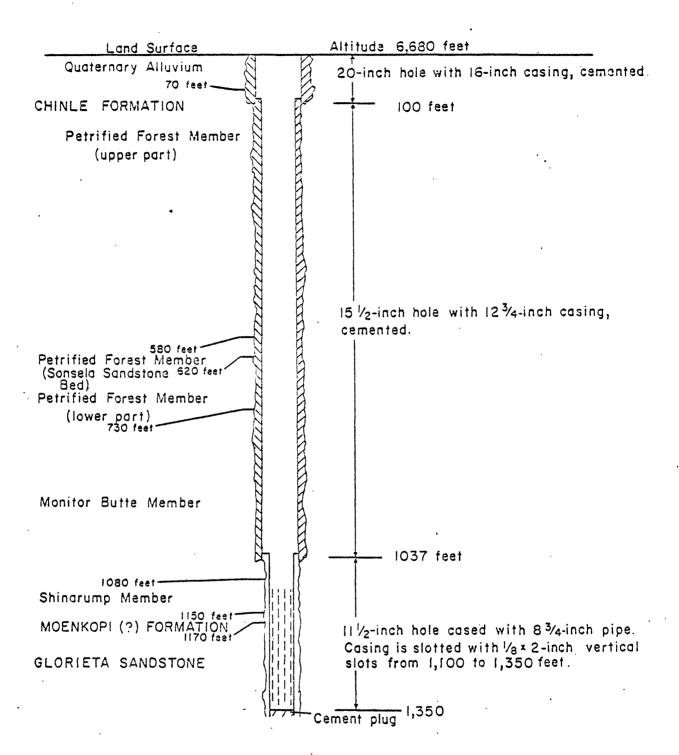


Figure 4.--Construction details of well 69, Fort Wingate Army Depot.

Table 1. -- Surmary record of well 69, Fort Mingate Army Depot

Location: NWWNEWNWWSE's sec. 24, T. 15 N., R. 17 W. (McKinley County, N. Mex.)

Altitude: 6,680 feet (ground level)

Depth drilled: 1,350 feet (driller)

Depth logged: 1,356 feet (Welex)

Date completed: September 10, 1970

Drilling contractor: Coffey Drilling Co., Ramah, N. Mex.

Drilling method: Hydraulic rotary

Casing and well record: From 0-100 feet, 16-inch casing; from

100-1,037 feet, 12 3/4-inch casing;

from 1,030 to 1,350 feet, 3.3/4-inch

casing.

Slotted casing from 1,100 to 1,350 feet.

Formation logs: Gamma neutron (0-1,030 feet); acoustic velocity and

induction-electric log (1,028-1,356 feet)

Water quality: Analyses in table 3

Aquifer testing

After development of well 69 by surging and bailing, a turbine pump was installed in the well and a 72-hour aquifer-performance test was started on October 2, 1970.

Prior to pumping, the well was flowing at a rate of 33 gpm (gallons per minute). Pumping began at an average rate of 310 gpm.

Water levels were measured both in the pumped well and in an observation well (well 68) with an electric measuring line and steel tape. The pump discharge was measured with a flow meter installed in the discharge line. At the end of the test the average pumping rate was 300 gpm and the depth to water in the pumped well was 303.40 feet. At no time during the test was sand observed in water pumped from the well.

The well-head pressure in the observation well was 4 psi (pounds per square inch) prior to pumping. This is equivalent to a head of 9.24 feet above land surface. After 72 hours of pumping the water level declined to 59.40 feet below land surface.

During the recovery period the water level was again measured periodically. The pumped well (well 69) began to flow 22½ minutes after the pump was shut off. After 930 minutes of recovery the well was flowing at a rate of 23 gpm.

The observation well (well 68) began to flow 19½ minutes after pumping ceased. After 930 minutes of recovery the well-head pressure was again at 4 psi.

Analysis of aquifer-test data

The Glorieta Sandstone beneath Fort Wingate Army Depot is a confined, extensive aquifer. Formations above and below the Glorieta are not believed to contribute significant amounts of water to the aquifer through leakage. Consequently, the non-equilibrium method and the modified non-equilibrium method (Walton, 1970) were applied to the aquifer-test data.

A logarithmic plot of drawdown in the observation well against the distance, in feet, between the pumped well and the observation well (squared) divided by time since pumping began, in days, is shown in figure 5. Application of the non-equilibrium method to these data yields a transmissivity of 160 ft²/day and a storage coefficient of 0.0012.

Recovery of water levels in both wells is plotted against the logarithm of time since pumping started divided by time since pumping stopped in figures 6 and 7. Transmissivity determined from recovery in the pumped well is 540 ft²/day, and from recovery in the observation well is 460 ft²/day. Table 2 shows a summary of hydraulic properties determined from application of the non-equilibrium or modified non-equilibrium methods to drawdown and recovery data. All solutions yield results of the same order of magnitude but the range in values is appreciable.

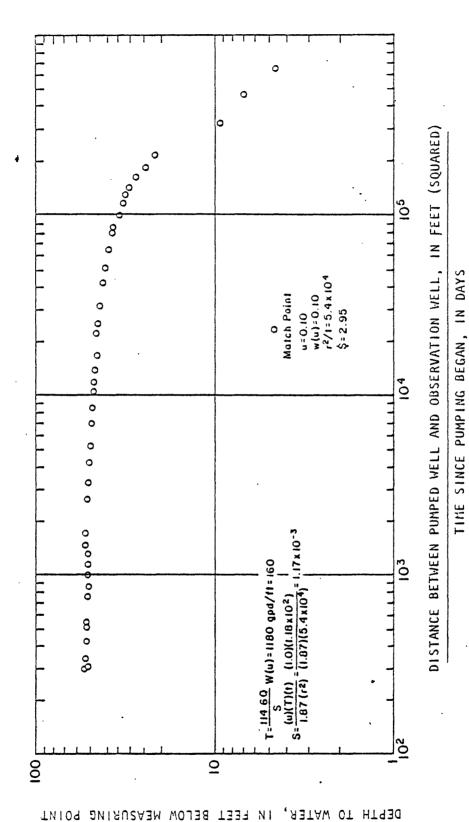


Figure 5.--Drawdown in the observation well (well 68) during pumping of well 69,

October 2-5, 1970.

IN FEET BELOW MEASURING POINT

DEPTH TO WATER,

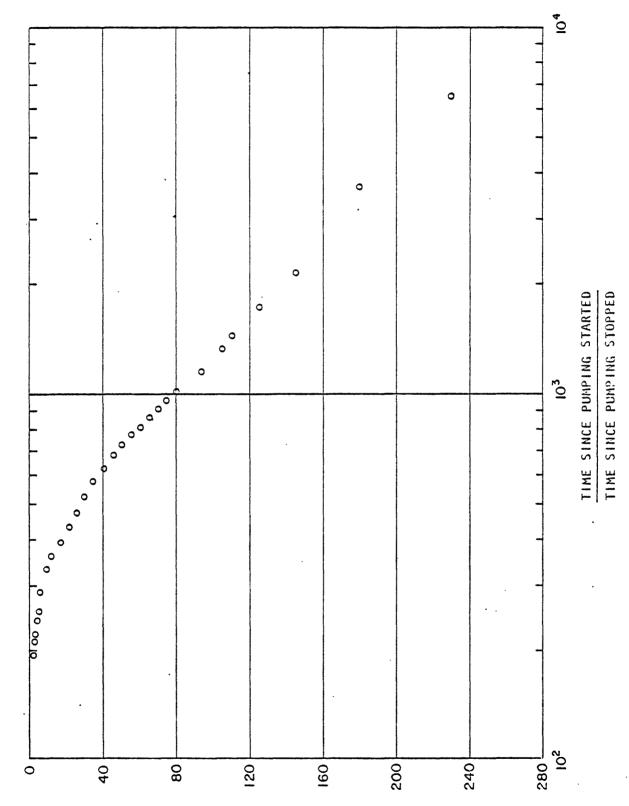


Figure 6.--Depth to water in the pumped well (well 69) during recovery period.

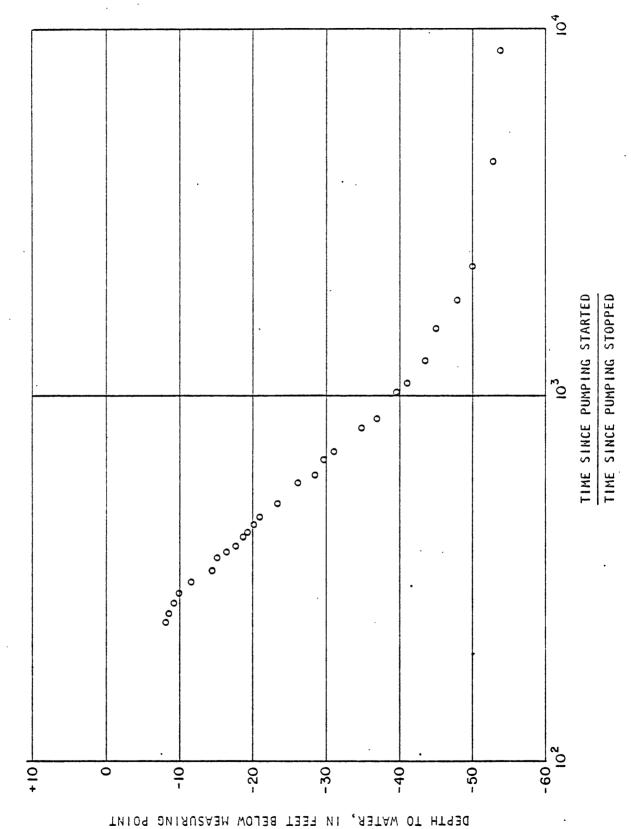


Figure 7.--Depth to water in the observation well (well 68) during recovery period.

Table 2.--Hydraulic properties of the Glorieta Sandstone determined from pumping test, October 2-5, 1970

Method of Analysis	Transmissivity (ft ² /day)	Storage coefficient (dimensionless)
Nonequilibrium,		
drawdown in		•
observation well	160	0.0012
Modified nonequilibrium, recovery in pumped well	540	
recovery in pumper werr	340	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Modified nonequilibrium,		·
recovery in observation		
well	460	·

The inferred transmissivity of the Glorieta Sandstone determined from this test is about 400 ft²/day. The storage coefficient is about 0.001. These values can be used for projecting drawdowns at varying distances from the pumped well, and for different discharge rates and durations of pumping.

Chemical quality of water

Analysis of water from the Glorieta Sandstone (table 3) indicates the water is high in bicarbonate and sulface ions. The total dissolved solids of 918 mg/l (milligrams per liter) exceeds the maximum of 500 mg/l as recommended by the U.S. Public Health Service. However, in many parts of New Mexico ground-water supplies do not meet these standards and waters of higher salinity are used with no noticeable ill effects.

Table 3. -- Chemical analysis of water from well 69

(Analyses by U.S. Geological Survey; chemical constituents in milligrams per liter)

Date of collection - October 5, 1970 Silica as SiO₂ Iron as Fe, (Total)39 Calcium as Ca Magnesium as Mg 102 Sodium Na+Potassium K (calculated) . 53 Bicarbonate as HCO₃ 214 Carbonate as CO₃ Sulfate as SO₄ 564 Chloride as Cl 1.6 Fluoride as F 2 Nitrate as NO3 Dissolved solids: Residue at 180°C 918 Total hardness as CaCO₂ 650 Noncarbonate hardness as CaCO3 474 Alkalinity as CaCO3 175 1,280 Specific conductance pH, standard units 7.7 Color, Hazen units9

Summary and conclusions

Well 69, Fort Wingate Army Depot, was completed in 1970 at a depth of 1,350 feet. It is located in the NWANEZNWASEA sec. 24, T. 15 N., R. 17 W. (projected section) at an altitude of 6,680 feet. The well produces water from the Glorieta Sandstone of Permian age and was test pumped at a rate of 300 gpm. Prior to the test, the well flowed at a rate of 33 gpm; after 72 hours of pumping the water level had declined to a depth of 303.4 feet.

During pumping of well 69 the water level in well 68, 30 feet northeast, was observed. At the end of the test the water level in well 68 had declined from a static level of 9.24 feet above land surface (4 psi well-head pressure) to a depth of 59.40 feet below land surface.

The well was completed approximately 50 feet above the base of the Glorieta Sandstone because of restricted funding. Penetration of the entire thickness of the sandstone might have resulted in a moderately increased yield of the well.

The water pumped from well 69 contained 918 mg/1 total dissolved solids. The water is hard and high in sulfate and bicarbonate ions.

References cited

Walton, W. C., 1970, Groundwater resource evaluation: New York, McGraw-Hill, 664 p., 29 figs.

Note: Drill cuttings samples were collected at 10-foot intervals.

An effort was made to adjust sample-description log to geophysical logs and to identify cavings and exclude them from the description.

Color symbols in parentheses following the color of the rock are from the "Rock-Color Chart", 1963, distributed by the Geological Society of America, New York, N. Y.

Sample description by J. W. Mercer		
	Thickness	Depth
Stratigraphic unit and material	(feet)	(feet)
Quaternary System:		

Alluvium:

Stratigraphic unit and material	Thickness (feet)	Depth (feet)
Triassic System:		
Chinle Formation:		
Petrified Forest Member (upper part):	•	
Claystone, pale reddish-brown (10 R	5/4);	
silty; calcareous; dark-gray limes	tone	
fragments common; minor stained qu	artz	
grains	60	130
Claystone, grayish-red (5 R 4/2);		
silty; calcareous; contains light-		
gray spots; white crystalline calc	ite	
and dark gray limestone fragments		
common	30	160
Claystone, pale-red (5 R 6/2) to		
grayish-red (5 R 4/2); silty; slight	htly	
calcareous	10	170
Claystone, pale-red (5 R 6/2); silty	;	

slightly calcareous; grayish-pink

(5 R 8/2) to pale-red (5 R 6/2)

fine-grained calcareous sandstone

common to abundant -----

190

Stratigraphic unit and material	Thickness (feet)	Depth (feat
•	(LeeL)	15666
Friassic System - Continued:		
Chinle Formation - Continued:		
Petrified Forest Member (upper part) - Con	tinued:	
Sandstone, pale-red (5 R 6/2); silty;		
very fine- to fine-grained; poorly		
sorted; composed of clear to gray,		
angular, quartz grains; moderately		
cemented; slightly calcareous;		
red claystone and gray limestone		
fragments common	_ 20	210
Siltstone, pale-red (5 R 6/2) to		
<pre>grayish-red (5 R 4/2); very sandy;</pre>		
slightly calcareous; contains		
minor mica flakes; red sandstone and	1	
claystone fragments common	- 50	260
Sandstone, pale-red (10 R 6/2) to		
grayish-orange-pink (5 YR 7/2); sil	Ξу;	
very fine- to fine-grained; poorly		
sorted; composed of clear to amber,		
subangular, quartz grains; moderately	7	•
cemented; slightly calcareous; conta	ains	
minor mica and dark accessory minerared siltstone and gray limestone fra	•	

10

270

ments common -----

					Thickness	Depth
Stratigraphic	unit	and	material	•	(feet)	(feet)

Triassic System - Continued:

Chinle Formation - Continued:

Petrified Forest Member (upper part) - Continued: Siltstone, grayish-red (10 R 4/2) to pale-red (5 R 6/2); sandy; slightly calcareous; mica flakes and clear quartz grains common; claystone minor sandstone fragments common -----10 280 Sandstone, pale-pink (5 RP 8/2) to pale red-purple (5 RP 6/2); silty; very fine- to fine-grained; poorly sorted; composed of subangular to rounded, clear to amber, quartz grains with dark accessory minerals common; moderately cemented; slightly calcareous; minor white crystalline calcite; red claystone fragments

Thickness	Depth
Stratigraphic unit and material (feet)	(feet)

Triassic System - Continued:

Chinle Formation - Continued:

Petrified Forest Member (upper part) - Continued: Siltstone, grayish red-purple (5 RP 4/2); sandy; slightly calcareous; contains mica flakes; abundant pale red-purple (5 RP 6/2) sandstone fragments; red claystone fragments common -----1.0 300 Sandstone, pale-red (5 R 6/2) to grayish orange-pink (10 R 8/2); silty; very fine- to fine-grained; moderately sorted; composed of angular to subrounded, clear to frosted, quartz grains; minor dark accessory minerals; moderately cemented, calcarious; abundant grayish-red (5 R 4/2) and light olive-gray (5 Y 5/2)claystone -----310 Claystone, grayish-red (10 R 4/2); silty; calcareous; gray limestone and red silt-330 20 stone fragments common -----

Stratigraphic unit and material	Thickness (feet)	Depth (feet)
Triassic System - Continued:		
Chinle Formation - Continued:		
Petrified Forest Member (upper part) - Con	tinued:	
Claystone, grayish-red (10 R 4/2) to		
pale-olive (10 Y 6/2); silty; minor	•	
gray limestone and red siltstone		
fragments	10	340
Claystone, pale-red (5 R 6/2) to gray	ish-	
red (10 R $4/2$); silty; slightly cal	. - •	
careous; gray limestone and red sil	tstone	
minor to common; minor pink sandsto	ne	
fragments; some of the claystone co	n-	
tains light colored "reduced" zones	40	380
Claystone, pale-red (5 R 6/2) to gray	ish-	
red (10 R 4/2); silty; calcarious;		
minor red siltstone; minor pale-oli	ve	
(10 Y 6/2) claystone fragments	20	400
Claystone, pale-red (5 R 6/2) to gray	ish-	
red (5 R 4/2); silty; very calcared	us;	
common to abundant white to dark-gr	ay,	
subangular to rounded, limestone fr	ag-	
ments; red siltstone fragments comm	on;	

minor pale-olive claystone fragments - 40

	Thickness	Depth
Stratigraphic unit and material	(feet)	(feat)
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Triassic System - Continued:

Chinle Formation - Continued:

Petrified Forest Member (upper part) - Continued: Siltstone, grayish red-purple (5 RP 4/2) to grayish-red (10 R 4/2); clayey; contains rounded gray limestone . fragments; very calcareous; red and grayish red-purple (5 RP 4/2) claystone common to abundant ----- 10 450 Claystone, grayish red-purple (5 RP 4/2) to greenish-gray (5 GY 6/1); silty; very calcareous; gray to white limestone fragments common; minor sandstone fragments -----460 Sandstone, light brownish-gray (5 YR 6/1); silty; very fine- to fine-grained: poorly sorted; composed of subangular to rounded clear to amber, quartz grains; dark accessory minerals common; minor mica flakes; moderately cemented, slightly calcareous; gray limestone and red claystone fragments 490

Stratigraphic unit and material	Thickness (feet)	Depth (feet
Triassic System - Continued:		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Chinle Formation - Continued:		
Petrified Forest Member (upper part) - Co	ntinued:	
Claystone, grayish-red (10 R 4/2) to		
pale reddish-brown (10 R 5/4); sil	ty;	
slightly calcareous; abundant ligh	t	
brownish-gray (5 YR 6/1) sandstone	;	
gray limestone fragments common	20	510
Sandstone, light brownish-gray (5 YR	6/1);	
silty; very fine- to fine-grained;	poorly	
sorted; composed of angular to sub	rounded,	
clear, quartz grains; dark accessor	-À	
minerals common; minor mica flakes	;	
moderately cemented; noncalcareous;	; red	
claystone common	10	520
Claystone, grayish-red (10 R 4/2) to		
grayish red-purple (5 RP 4/2); silt	:y;	
calcareous; white to gray, angular	to sub-	
rounded limestone common to abundar	ıt;	
brown sandstone common	20	540

Thi	ickness	Depth
Stratigraphic unit and material ((feet)	(feet)

Triassic System - Continued:

Chinle Formation - Continued:

Petrified Forest Member (upper part) - Concluded:

Claystone, grayish-red (5 R 4/2) to

yellowish-gray (5 Y 8/1); silty;

slightly calcareous; contains sub
rounded grains of yellowish-gray

limestone; minor white crystalline

calcite; light-brown sandstone common;

pale-red siltstone common ------ 30 570

Claystone, grayish red-purple (5 RP 4/2)

to grayish-red (10 R 4/2); silty;

slightly calcareous; contains white

limestone fragments; light-brown sandstone
and siltstone fragments common ----- 10 580

		Thickness	Depth
Stratigraphic unit and	material	(feet)	(feet)

Triassic System - Continued:

Chinle Formation - Continued:

Petrified Forest Member (Sonsela Sandstone Bed): Sandstone, pinkish-gray (5 YR 8/1) to very light-gray (N 8); clayey; very fine- to fine-grained; poorly sorted; composed of angular to subrounded. frosted to clear, quartz grains; moderately cemented; slightly calcareous; rare dark accessory minerals; red siltstone and claystone (cavings?) common - 40 620 Petrified Forest Member (lower part): Claystone, grayish red-purple (5 RP 4/2) to grayish-purple (5 P 4/2); silty; contains spots of pale greenish-yellow (10 Y 8/2) clay; calcareous; grayishred siltstone and dark-gray limestone minor to common ----- 30 650 Claystone, yellowish-gray (5 Y 7/2) with minor grayish-red (10 R 4/2) fragments; silty; contains very fine-grained quartz grains; very slightly calcareous ---- 10 660

Stratigraphic unit and material .	hickness (feet)	Depth (feet)
Triassic System - Continued:		
Chinle Formation - Continued:		
Petrified Forest Member (lower part) - Cont	inued:	
Claystone, grayish red-purple (5.RP 4/	2)	
with spots of pale yellowish-gray		
(10 Y 8/2) clay; silty; calcareous;		
minor dark-gray clay; minor grayish-		
red siltstone; clear quartz grains		
rare	_ 30	690
Sandstone, yellowish-gray (5 Y 8/1) to		
grayish orange-pink (10 R 8.2); silt	у;	•
very fine- to medium-grained sand;		
poorly sorted; composed of angular t	o	
subrounded, clear to frosted, quartz		
grains; well cemented; noncalcareous	;	
common dark accessory minerals; mino	r	•
grayish purple claystone fragments -	- 20	710
Claystone, grayish red-purple (5 RP 4/	2)	
with pale greenish-yellow (10 Y 8/2)		
reduced zones; silty; slightly cal-		-
careous; minor quartz grains; minor	red	

10 `

Appendix A.--Sample-description log of well 69, Fort Wingate Army

Depot, McKinley County, New Mexico - Continued

	Thickness	Depth
Stratigraphic unit and material	(feet)	(feet)

Triassic System - Continued:

Chinle Formation - Continued:

Petrified Forest Member (lower part) - Concluded:

Claystone, pale red-purple (5 RP 6/2) with

pale greenish-yellow (10 Y 8/2) re
duced zones; silty; slightly calcareous;

contains minor, amber, quartz grains -- 10

730

Monitor Butte Member:

Claystone, grayish-red (10 R 4/2) to moderate reddish-brown (10 R 4/6); silty; calcareous; some fragments contain very fine-grained, amber, quartz grains; red siltstone

common ----- 60

Claystone, grayish red-purple (5 RP 4/2) to grayish-red (10R 4/2); silty; cal-

careous; contains some fragments of

pale greenish-yellow (10 Y 8/2) grayish-

red siltstone common; minor mica

flakes; minor brown sandstone -----

880

Stratigraphic unit and material	Thickness (feet)	Depth (feet)
Triassic System - Continued:		
Chinle Formation - Continued		
Monitor Butte Member - Continued:		
Siltstone, dark reddish-brown (10 R	3/4)	
to grayish-red (10 R 4/2); slightly	7	
calcareous; abundant grayish-red		
claystone fragments	20	900
Claystone, moderate reddish-brown		
. (10 R 4/6) to grayish-red (10 R 4/2	2);	
silty; very calcareous; reddish-bro	own	
siltstone common	20	920
Claystone, grayish-red (5 R 4/2); si	Lty;	
light-gray (N 7) clay fragments		
common; very calcareous; minor red	dish-	
brown siltstone	20	940
Claystone, variegated grayish red-		
purple (5 RP 4/2), grayish-purple		
(5 P $4/2$), grayish-red (10 R $4/2$),		
and light-gray (N 6); silty; cal-		
careous; reddish-brown siltstone		
fragments common; minor gray lime-		
stone fragments	80	1,020

Stratigraphic unit and material	Thickness (feet)	Depth (feet
Triassic System - Continued:		
Chinle Formation - Continued		
Monitor Butte Member - Concluded		
Claystone, medium light-gray (N 6) to		
grayish red-purple (5 RP 4/2); silty	7 ;	
calcareous; minor grayish-red silt-		
stone	30	1,050
Claystone, medium light-gray (N 6) to		
medium gray (N 5); slightly cal-		
careous; minor grayish red-purple		
siltstone	10	1,060
Claystone, grayish red-purple (5 RP 4/	(2)	
to grayish-purple (5 P 4/2); silty;		
slightly calcareous	- 20	1,080
Shinarump Member:		
Claystone, grayish-purple (5 P 4/2);		
silty; slightly calcareous; grayish-		
pink (4 R 8/2) sandstone common to		
abundant; silty; very fine-grained,		
moderately sorted; composed of sub-		
angular to subrounded, clear, quartz		
grains; moderately cemented; non-		
calcareous	- 20	1,100

Thickness	Depth
Stratigraphic unit and material (feet)	(feet)

Triassic System - Continued:

Chinle Formation - Concluded:

Shinarump Member - Concluded:

Sandstone, grayish-pink (5 R 8/2) to white (N 9); medium to very coarse sand; moderately sorted; composed of subangular to rounded, clear to amber, quartz grains; moderately cemented, dark accessory minerals common; grayish-purple 1,140 claystone minor to common -----Conglomerate, pale-red (10 R 6/2) to grayish-pink (5 R 8/2); coarse sand to fine gravel; composed of subangular to rounded, clear to amber quartz grains; minor feldspar and dark accessory minerals; greenishgray (5 GY 6/1) claystone common; sample not consolidated, mostly individual grains -----1,150

·	Thickness	Deoth
Stratigraphic unit and material	(feet)	(feet)

Triassic System - Concluded

Permian System:

San Andres Limestone: (not present in this hole) (?)
Glorieta Sandstone:

1,220

Thickness	Depth
Stratigraphic unit and material (feet)	(feet)

Permian System - Continued:

San Andres Limestone - Continued:

Glorieta Sandstone - Continued:

Sandstone, moderate orange-pink (5 YR 8/4); very fine- to fine-grained; moderately sorted; composed of subangular to rounded, clear, quartz grains; moderately cemented. very slightly calcareous; rare dark accessory minerals; grayish-ourple (5 P 4/2) claystone (cavings?) common to abundant -----70 1,290 Sandstone, moderate orange-pink (5 YR 8/4); same as 1,220-1,290 but samples contain no claystone -----1,300 Sandstone, pale-red (5 R 6/2) to grayishred (10 R 4/2); silty; very fine- to fine-grained; poorly sorted; composed of angular to subrounded, amber, quartz grains; well cemented; very slightly calcareous; grayish-purple claystone fragments minor 1,310 to common -----10

Thickness Depth				
Charles and antonial (fact)			Thickness	Depth
Stratigraphic unit and material (feet) (feet)	Stratigraphic unit a	nd material	(feet)	(feet)

Permian System - Concluded:

San Andres Limestone - Concluded:

Glorieta Sandstone - Concluded: